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Irrigation

Irrigation works in the Tinnevelly district for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are not kept by the Government.

* 489 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to Irrigation works in the Tinnevelly district for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept by the Government—

(*a*) the gross revenue and the total outlay incurred during the last financial year for which figures are available; and

(*b*) the amounts spent in respect of each work in charge of the Public Works Department during that year?

A.—(*a*) The gross revenue and total outlay incurred in 1931–1932 were Rs. 12,98,372 and Rs. 2,72,163 respectively.

(*b*) A statement [a] giving the information is appended.

Land Revenue Administration

Extent of cultivable land in the Tinnevelly district lying uncultivated.

* 490 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 6·46 lakhs of acres of cultivable land in the Tinnevelly district is at present uncultivated; and

(*b*) whether the Government have got any policy for bringing this large extent of land as well as similar extents in other districts into cultivation?

A.—(*a*) The extent of cultivable waste other than fallow in the Tinnevelly district at the end of fasli 1341 was 151,280 acres.

(*b*) The policy of Government relating to the disposal of cultivable land is embodied in the Board's Standing Orders Nos. 15, 17, 18, 19, 19-A, 21, 24 and 26.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether Government will consider the desirability of amending the Board's Standing Orders so as to enable private individuals to acquire lands more easily than at present?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The question of acquisition of lands is dealt with in the Land Acquisition Act."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I wanted to know whether Government will consider the desirability of amending the Board's Standing Orders so that these lands may be liberally allowed to all those who apply for the same?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"If my hon. Friend puts a definite suggestion I shall be pleased to consider it."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 373–378 infra.

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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Sir, some of the Board's Standing Orders refer to the disposal of lands when an irrigation project is under execution or contemplation. May I know whether in the Tinnevelly district there are any projects of such character, that is, either under execution or investigation? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" It is possible that the Board's Standing Orders may apply to the Papanasam Scheme, but I cannot answer the question without notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Barring lands under that scheme, may I know whether there are lands available for assignment under darkhast rules? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I believe there are."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Under cowle rules also? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" Under the Board's Standing Orders."

Railways

Facilities to the Tanjore Mirasidars for the exportation of rice.

* 491 *Q.*—Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased—

(*a*) (i) to lay on the table all petitions addressed to the Government by the Tanjore district mirasidars for providing better export facilities for their rice to other countries and to Ceylon in particular and for a reduction in the South Indian Railway Company's freight thereon;

(ii) to state whether the Government accepted the resolution moved by Mr. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar of Shiyali and by the late Sir Ahmed Tambi Marakkayar of Negapatam, urging on the Government for opening all the Tanjore district minor ports like Tirumullavasal, Nagore, Point Calimere, Adirampatnam, etc., to facilitate Tanjore district rice export at cheaper steamer-boat transhipment charges; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) (ii) be in the affirmative, what action the Government have taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) (i) The question of providing better export facilities for the Tanjore district rice to other countries including Ceylon, and for reducing the railway freight thereon was referred to in a printed memorial, of which considerable numbers in identical terms were received on different dates, and in resolutions passed on various occasions by a number of associations in the Tanjore district. Relevant extracts[a] of the printed petition and of the resolutions are appended.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 379–380 infra.